(c) The estimated gas requirement for fertilizer industry (MMSCMD) including that for debottlenecking, expansions, Naphtha/FO/LSHS conversion and revival proposal of 8 closed units of HFC and FCI is as below.

(MMSCMD)

Plants	Nos.	Current gas supply 2007-08	Projected requirement				
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Gas Based Plants on HBJ Pipeline	22*	28.6	41.282	43.169	49.829	54.299	54.299
Naphtha Based Plants	5				6.350	6.350	6.350
FO/LSHS Based Plants	4					3.960	3.960
Total (Gas+Naphtha+FO)	31	28.6	41.282	43.169	56.179	64.609	64.609
Closed units	7					14.770	14.770
Total Requirement	38	28.6	41.282	43.169	56.179	79.379	79.379

* 3 Gas based plants are presently closed.

(d) The Government of India is taking various steps as indicated below to augment gas supplies in the country so that demand for gas including that of fertilizer sector is completely met.

(i) Intensification in domestic E and P activities;

(ii) Exploitation of unconventional gas like coal bed methane.

(iii) Implementation of Natural Gas Hydrate Programme (NGHP) for evaluation of hydrate resources and their possible commercial exploitation;

(iv) LNG Import

(v) Gas sourcing through transnational gas pipelines.

Shortage of urea

2656. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been made mandatory to move indigenous-urea through district level primary godowns;

(b) if so, whether due to lack of required infrastructure movement of urea from district level godowns to dealers/customers is delayed;

(c) the steps taken by Government to overcome bottlenecks in the movement of urea;

(d) whether it is fact that under the new policy, movement of stock from factory and/or railhead to godowns is restricted to only three primary buffer in a district; and;

(e) whether Government may consider to increase the buffers to minimum Seven and maximum of ten to widen the scope of transportation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (e) The Government has approved the New Pricing Scheme(NPS) Stage III on 1.02.2007 to be implemented with effect from 1.10.2006. Under the NPS III, the movement of urea will be monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system. The subsidy on urea will be paid only when urea reaches the district. Further, the Department will ensure pre-positioning of urea in each district in adequate quantities to obviate the possibility of shortages and is also mandated to operate a buffer stock through the State Institutional Agencies/fertilizer companies. The freight reimbursement to urea units will now be on actual rail and road leads and will help in ensuring availability of urea in all parts of the country.

All urea reaching a district is required to be routed through the Primary St c' Points (PSPs). Fertilizer companies were initially authorized to identify upto th e PSP's in each district. Subsequently, it has been decided that each company can have one PSP in each Block of the District. This will ensure that urea is delivered in adequate quantity right upto each Block in the country.

Pharma policy and pharma advisory forum

2657. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have so far formulated any Pharma Policy or constituted Pharma Advisory Forum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to set up a National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER); and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and how far this would help in providing highly trained manpower to Pharma Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy was considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 11.1.2007. The Cabinet has referred the Policy to Group of Ministers (GOM). The First meeting of the GOM was held on 10.4.2007. No time frame has been set for finalizing the National Pharmaceuticals Policy.

The Government constituted a Pharmaceutical Advisory Forum on the 26th July, 2004 to have a meaningful dialogue amongst all the stakeholders on